

## Message Text

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ORIGIN PRS-01

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

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FOR HODDING CARTER FROM S/PRS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:SOPN

SUBJECT: PRESS ITEMS

NO. 28

1. HERewith EXCERPT FROM MARVIN KALB FIRST LINE REPORT  
(CBS RADIO) OF FRIDAY, 13 MAY:

BEGIN TEXT

THE INCUMBENT PRESIDENT ALSO HAD AN INTERESTING REPORT ON  
HIS TALKS IN EUROPE ABOUT ALLIED UNITY AND THE MIDDLE EAST.  
HIS NEWS CONFERENCE FOLLOWED A MEETING WITH LEADING SENATORS  
ON THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE ABOUT THE PRESIDENT'S  
PENDING NEW POLICY ON ARMS SALES AND TRANSFERS TO FOREIGN  
COUNTRIES. THE RECOMMENDATIONS ON HIS DESK WOULD HAVE  
DIVIDED THE WORLD INTO TWO PARTS: ONE PRIVILEGED, CONSIS-  
TING OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY COUNTRIES PLUS JAPAN,  
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AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND; THE OTHER, THE REST OF THE WORLD.  
THESE SENATORS ARGUED THAT SUCH A DIVISION WOULD PUT  
ISRAEL AT A DISADVANTAGE STRATEGICALLY AND MILITARILY. THE  
PRESIDENT LISTENED AND ULTIMATELY AGREED. NOW, HIS POLICY  
ON ARMS WILL CONTAIN, IN EFFECT, A THIRD GLOBAL CATEGORY,  
NAMELY, ISRAEL.

THE SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE US WILL BE UNDERSCORED. THE PRESIDENT HAS SENT A LETTER TO SENATORS HUMPHREY AND CASE, AMONG OTHERS, REAFFIRMING THAT POINT, AND HE SAID AT HIS NEWS CONFERENCE THAT SO LONG AS HE'S PRESIDENT, ISRAEL WILL ENJOY A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE US.

THE PRESIDENT HAS ALSO PROMISED TO MOVE AHEAD ON ARMS ISSUES RELATING TO ISRAEL THAT HAVE BEEN HELD UP IN THE PENTAGON AND THE STATE DEPT. THIS SHOWS THAT PRES CARTER CAN CHANGE HIS MIND WHEN CONFRONTED WITH A STRONG CONGRESSIONAL POSITION, AND WHEN PERSUADED THAT THAT POSITION IS CORRECT. WHAT THE PRESIDENT GOT WAS THE DROPPING OF THE HUMPHREY-CASE AMENDMENT; WHAT THE SENATORS GOT WAS THE ADDING OF THE ESSENCE OF THAT AMENDMENT TO THE PRESIDENT'S POLICY.

SOME OBSERVERS HAVE SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT CAPITULATED. HE DID NOT. HE MERELY CHANGED HIS MIND, AND THEREBY SHOWED A FLEXIBILITY THAT WOULD HAVE SERVED RICHARD NIXON, AS WELL.

END TEXT

2. HERewith TEXT OF BERNARD GWERTZMAN ARTICLE IN NEW YORK TIMES EDITION OF FRIDAY, 13 MAY.

BEGIN TEXT

PRES CARTER AVOIDED A CONFRONTATION WITH ISRAEL AND ITS SUPPORTERS TODAY BY PLEDGING THAT THE US HAD "SPECIAL UNCLASSIFIED

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SECURITY RESPONSIBILITIES" TO ISRAEL AND THAT "SPECIAL TREATMENT" WOULD BE GIVEN TO ISRAEL WITH REGARD TO ITS RIGHT TO BUY AND CO-PRODUCE ADVANCED WEAPONRY.

THE STRONG COMMENTS AFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL WERE MADE BY MR CARTER TWICE -- ONCE IN A CLOSED-DOOR MEETING AT THE WHITE HOUSE WITH CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORTERS OF ISRAEL AND LATER AT HIS NEWS CONFERENCE IN THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING.

THE EFFECT OF THE STATEMENTS WAS TO ASSURE ISRAEL VIRTUALLY THE SAME PRIVILEGED STATUS AS THE UNITED STATES' MAJOR ALLIES IN SECURING UP-TO-DATE AMERICAN WEAPONS AND TECHNOLOGY.

ISRAEL AND ITS BACKERS HAD BEEN CONCERNED THAT A PENDING ADMINISTRATION MEASURE GOVERNING FUTURE ARMS SALES MIGHT CREATE DIFFICULTIES FOR ISRAEL, SINCE ORIGINALLY ISRAEL HAD NOT BEEN PLACED IN A SPECIAL CATEGORY OF NATIONS

PERMITTED TO SECURE WEAPONS EASILY. THE CATEGORY AT

FIRST CONSISTED OF MEMBERS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND JAPAN.

TWO AMENDMENTS TO THE MEASURE URGING SPECIAL CONSIDERATION FOR ISRAEL WERE PROPOSED IN CONGRESS. BUT TO AVOID A CONFRONTATION, MR CARTER AGREED TODAY TO A COMPROMISE DRAFTED BY SENATOR HENRY JACKSON AND MODIFIED BY SENATOR CLIFFORD CASE. ONE OF THE AMENDMENTS WAS DROPPED AND THE OTHER SOFTENED IN RETURN FOR EXPLICIT PLEDGES BY MR CARTER IN A LETTER FOR CONGRESS.

YESTERDAY IN LONDON, SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS R. VANCE, AFTER MEETING THE ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER, YIGAL ALLON, RENEWED AMERICA'S COMMITMENT TO A "SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP" WITH ISRAEL, INCLUDING THE SUPPLY OF NECESSARY WEAPONS.  
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BUT ISRAEL'S SUPPORTERS ON CAPITOL HILL LAST NIGHT INFORMED THE WHITE HOUSE THAT THE VANCE PLEDGE HAD NOT MET THEIR CONCERN: THEY WANTED THE SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS THAT MR CARTER AGREED TO TODAY.

THIS WAS MR.CARTER'S FIRST NEWS CONFERENCE SINCE HIS RETURN FROM LONDON ON TUESDAY NIGHT.

HE CONCENTRATED ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN HIS OPENING STATEMENT, EXPRESSING SATISFACTION WITH HIS MEETINGS WITH WESTERN LEADERS. HE CLAIMED THAT "SUBSTANTIAL SUCCESS" HAD BEEN ACHIEVED IN THE "RENEWED SPIRIT OF HOPE AND CONFIDENCE ENGENDRED AMONG ALL OF US WHO PARTICIPATED AS WE LOOKED TO THE FUTURE IN OUR IDEOLOGICAL COMPETITION" WITH THE "COMMUNIST AND SOCIALIST COUNTRIES."

MR. CARTER ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT LEONARD WOODCOCK, THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED AUTOMOBILE WORKERS, WOULD BE THE NEXT HEAD OF THE AMERICAN LIAISON OFFICE IN PEKING. AS TO EVENTUAL NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH CHINA, HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE TAIWAN ISSUE STILL POSED THE MAIN OBSTACLE, ALTHOUGH THE ADMINISTRATION WAS MOVING TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH PEKING IN AREAS SUCH AS THE SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS THAT DID NOT INVOLVE DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION.

MOST OF THE ATTENTION, HOWEVER, WAS ON THE MIDDLE EAST.

MR. CARTER, WHO HAS EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO PUSH FOR AN OVERALL MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT THIS YEAR, SAID THAT AS THE RESULT OF HIS TALKS WITH ARAB AND ISRAELI LEADERS IN RE-

CENT MONTHS "I FEEL BETTER THAN I DID BEFORE."

HE CAUTIONED, HOWEVER, "I DON'T WANT TO MISLEAD ANYONE."

"THE CHANCES FOR MIDDLE EASTERN PEACE ARE STILL VERY MUCH  
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IN DOUBT," HE DAID. "WE HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO."

MR. CARTER SAID THERE WAS A CHANCE THAT THE PALESTINE  
LIBERATION ORGANIZATION "MIGHT MAKE MOVES" TO RECOGNIZE  
"THE RIGHT OF ISRAEL TO EXIST." HE SAID THAT IF THIS  
HAPPENED, IT WOULD REMOVE A MAJOR OBSTACLE TO PROGRESS IN  
THE MIDDLE EAST.

ISRAEL HAS REFUSED TO AGREE TO PARTICIPATE WITH THE P.L.O.  
IN A RENEWED GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE. THE UNITED STATES  
HAS SAID IT WOULD SUPPORT ISRAEL'S POSITION ON PALESTINIAN  
PARTICIPATION AS LONG AS THE PALESTINIAN GROUP REFUSED TO  
RECOGNIZE ISRAEL'S EXISTENCE.

BUT PRESIDENT ANWAR EL-SADAT OF EGYPT HAS BEEN TALKING IN  
RECENT MONTHS OF PERSUADING THE P.L.O. TO ALTER ITS CHARTER  
TO ELIMINATE ARTICLES THAT IN EFFECT CALL FOR THE DESTRUC-  
TION ISRAEL. SO FAR, THIS EFFORT HAS NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL.  
BUT MR. CARTER SEEMED TO ALLUDE TO IT WHEN HE SAID THAT  
"THERE'S A CHANCE" THE P.L.O. WOULD RENOUNCE THE DESTRUC-  
TION OF ISRAEL. "WE'RE TRYING TO ADD OUR EFFORTS TO BRING  
THIS ABOUT BUT I HAVE NO ASSURANCE THAT IT WILL BE  
ACCOMPLISHED," HE SAID.

IN THE PRESS CONFERENCE, HE WAS ASKED IF HE BELIEVED ISRAEL  
SHOULD ACCEPT THE CREATION OF A "PALESTINIAN HOMELAND" IF  
THE P.L.O. ACCEPTED "THE FACT OF ISRAEL." HE SAID "YES."

"I DON'T THINK THAT THERE CAN BE ANY REASONABLE HOPE FOR A  
SETTLEMENT OF THE MIDDLE EASTERN QUESTION WHICH HAS BEEN  
EXTANT NOW ON A CONTINUING BASIS FOR MORE THAN 29 YEARS  
WITHOUT A HOMELAND FOR THE PALESTINIANS," HE SAID.

BUT HE REFUSED TO SAY WHAT THE "HOMELAND" SHOULD CONSIST  
OF AND WHETHER IT SHOULD BE INDEPENDENT, LINKED TO JORDAN,  
OR TO SYRIA OR OTHER COUNTRIES.

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ON THE QUESTION OF ARMS TO ISRAEL, THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, REPORTING OUT THE FOREIGN-AID AUTHORIZATION BILL THIS AFTERNOON, MADE PUBLIC MR. CARTER'S LETTER.

IN IT, HE SAID THAT ISRAEL HAD NOT BEEN INCLUDED IN THE SPECIAL CATEGORY OF ARMS RECIPIENTS EARLIER "SIMPLY BECAUSE WE BELIEVE IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL DO EVERYTHING NECESSARY TO INSURE ISRAEL'S SECURITY." CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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